

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a lush, green forested landscape. In the foreground, there are some buildings and parking lots, suggesting a developed area near the river. The background shows more dense forest and distant hills under a slightly overcast sky.

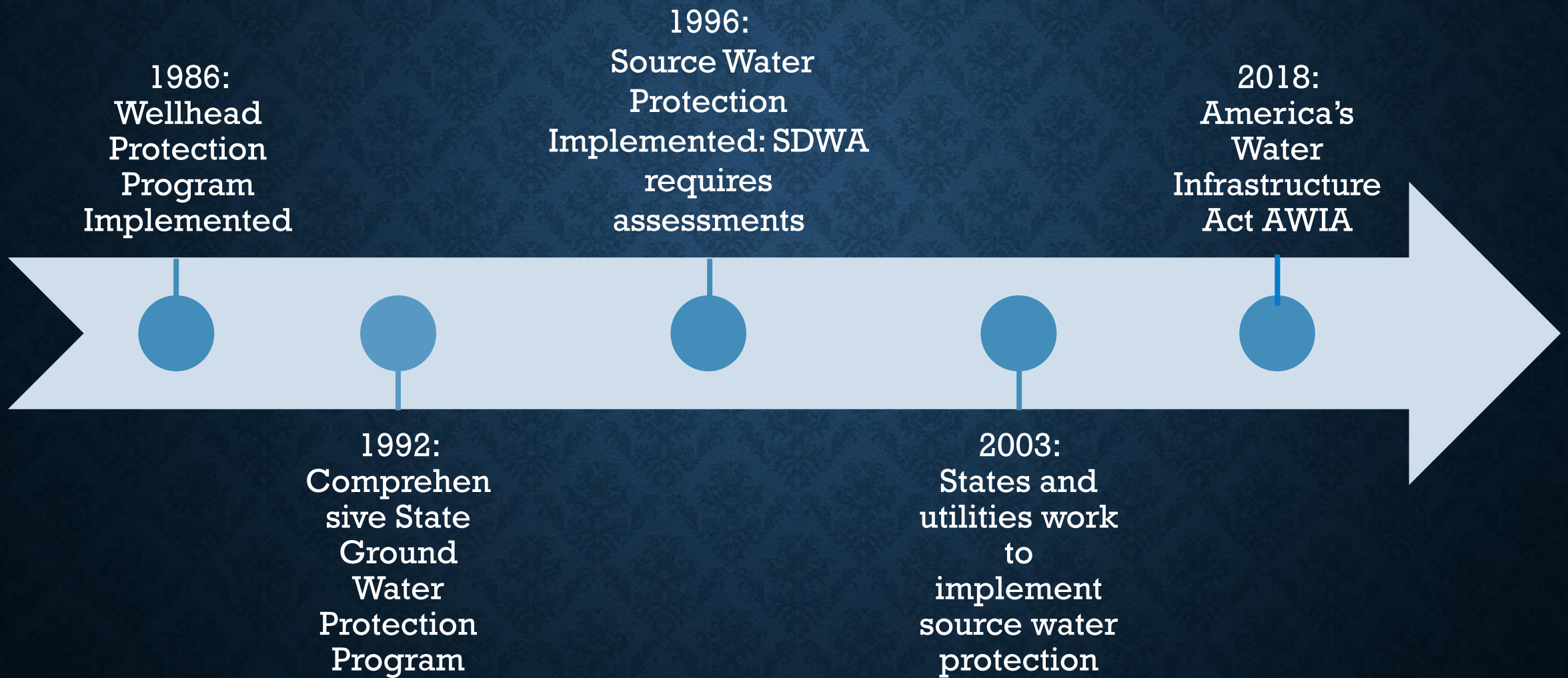
EPA'S NATIONAL & REGIONAL SOURCE PROTECTION PRIORITIES

**Presented by Jane Downing, Acting Deputy Director,
Water Division, EPA Region 1**

Overview of Presentation

- Background on the Source Water Protection Program: Past, Present, and Future
- EPA's National Priorities
- Examples of Regional Projects





Results of the Source Water Assessments in New England – Top 5 Threats:

- Stormwater
- Hazardous Waste Sites
- Leaking Underground Storage Tanks
- Failing Septic Systems
- Changing Land Uses

2014 Chemical Spill in Charleston, West Virginia Wreaks Havoc for Months



Toledo, Ohio: Summer 2014 “Toxic Algae” Causes Alarm



Closer To Home...Contamination of Milford's Water Supply: Savage Well



By KATHY CLEVELAND
Staff Writer

MILFORD –

After years of soil sampling, public hearings, proposals for remedies and target dates that have come and gone, the EPA announced in 2013 that the final cleanup of the Elm Street site – the excavation and off-site treatment and disposal of soils contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) – was expected to start in fall 2013. Fletcher Paint had a storage facility. company brought hundreds of drums of contaminated material to the site. source for Milford from 1960 to 1983, when the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services detected concentrations of volatile organic compounds above drinking water standards, and the well was shut down. The site received Superfund emergency monies to temporarily provide bottled water to residents of a nearby trailer park whose water supply well was also affected. The trailer park was subsequently connected to the town's public water supply, and the site was added to the National Priorities List in September 1984. Two years ago, the Department of Environmental Services reported that it had sampled wells on North River Road for many years, and there was no evidence to show contamination had migrated to residential areas.



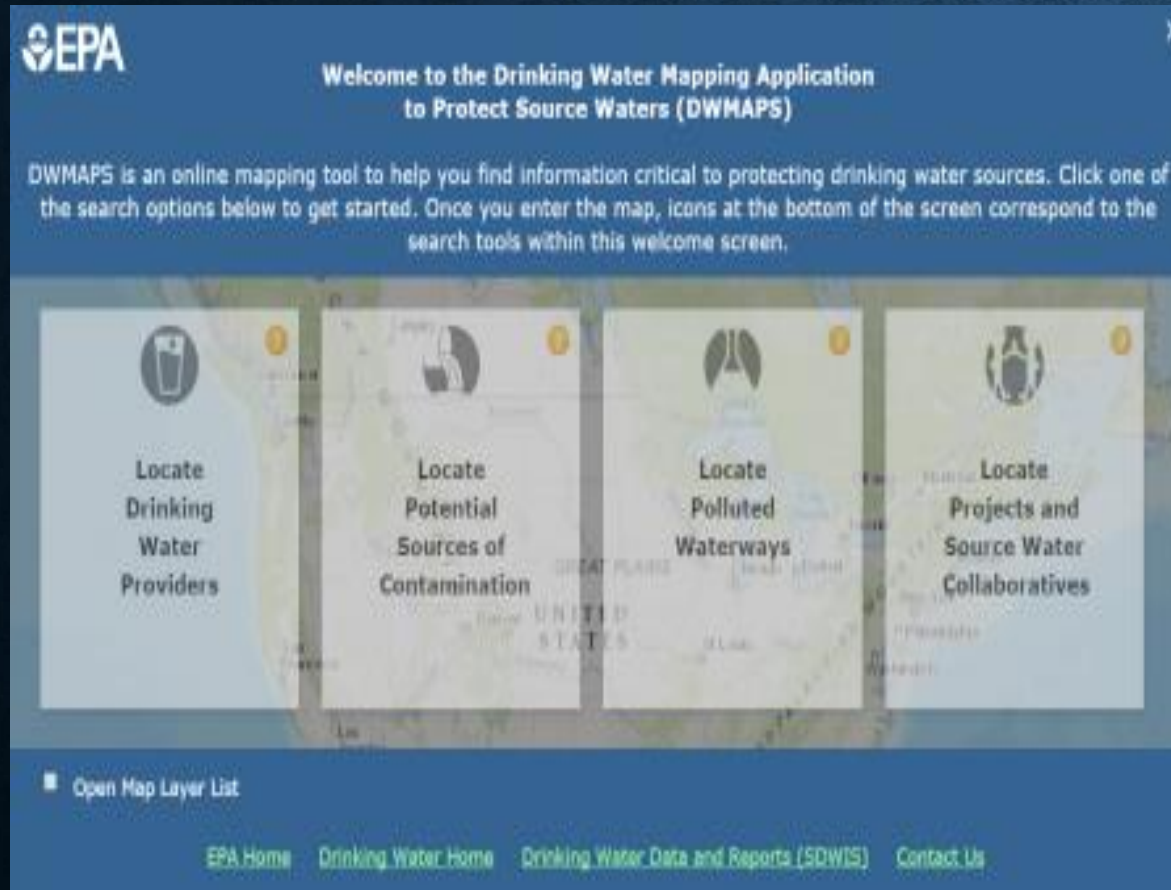


EPA's National Source Water Protection Priorities

- **Partnerships:** Internal (with other EPA programs) & External
- **Tools for Targeting:** Drinking Water Mapping Application (DWMAPS)
- **Opportunities from the 2018 America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA):** Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA)
- **Opportunities From the 2018 Farm Bill**

What is EPA's Drinking Water Mapping Tool (Dwmaps)?

WWW.EPA.GOV/SOURCEWATERPROTECTION/DRINKING-WATER-MAPPING-APPLICATION-PROTECT-SOURCE-WATERS-DWMAPS



- DWMAPS is an online mapping tool that works in concert with other state and local mapping tools to help update source water assessments and protection plans.
- DWMAPS can be used to locate drinking water providers, potential sources of contamination, polluted waterways as well as information on protection projects and Source Water Collaborative initiatives in their area.⁹

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA)

Source Water Protection Opportunities with EPCRA:

- What is EPCRA? Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (**EPCRA**)
- On October 23, 2018, America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) was signed into law, amending EPCRA. This new legislation requires state and tribal emergency response commissions to notify the applicable State agency (i.e., the drinking water primacy agency) of any reportable releases and provide community water systems with hazardous chemical inventory data.



Additional Opportunities with AWIA: Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

- Among the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) amendments is an expansion of source water protection-related eligibilities under the Local Assistance set-aside.
- These revisions allow states to fund delineation and assessment of source water protection areas, and to update existing source water protection assessments, using the 15 percent Local Assistance and Other State Programs set-aside.
- That authorization had previously expired with the 1997 capitalization grant funding. Further, states may now use this set-aside to fund activities to implement source water protection more generally.



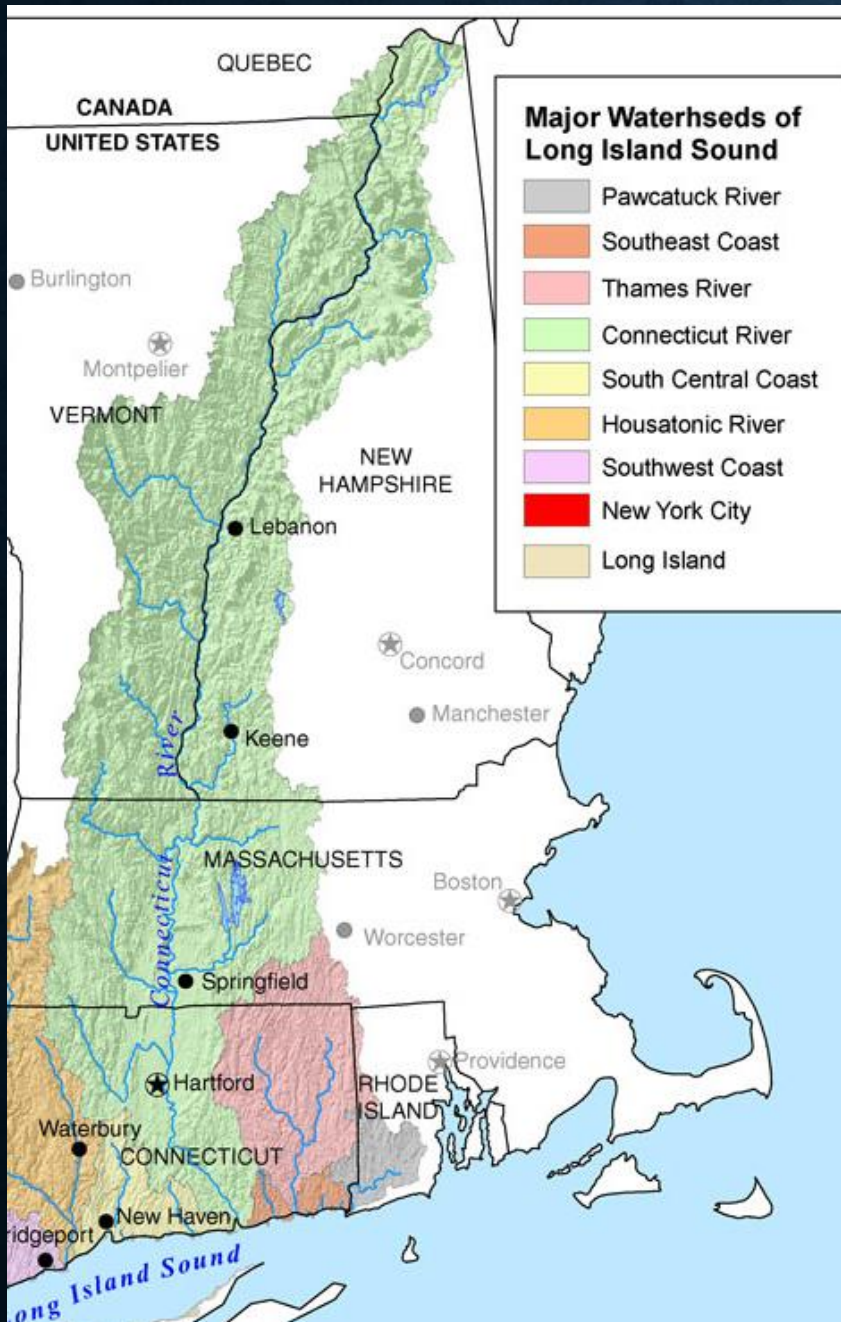
Opportunities in the 2018 Farm Bill

- The 2018 Farm Bill allows for at least 10% of all conservation funds to be directed to source water protection. Nationwide, this is about \$400 million per year!

Along with the states, EPA is involved in numerous projects throughout New England with the State Drinking Water Programs and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) including:

- Long Island Sound/CT River Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- CT NRCS Source Water National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) Pilot Project
- Saco River Watershed Collaborative (Maine and New Hampshire)

Long Island Sound Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)



- \$10 million project using USDA - NRCS Farm Bill funds
- Six states involved in project (NH, VT, MA, NY, RI & CT)
- Three project focus areas:
 - 1) Resiliency;
 - 2) Soil Health &
 - 3) \$3.25 million for Land Conservation in priority areas (including drinking water protection areas)



<http://www.lisw-rcpp.com/>

Other examples of EPA's Regional Partnerships:

- New England Watershed Managers Collaborative (15 New England Water Utilities)
- Connecticut Source Water Collaborative
- Salmon Falls Watershed Collaborative





EPA Funds in Action:
**2018 Funding from the EPA Healthy Watersheds Grant Program Awarded
to the Sebago Clean Waters Initiative**

In April 2018, \$350,000 (over three years) was awarded to the Highstead Foundation, which will work with partners to secure drinking water quality in Sebago Lake through land conservation.

<https://www.epa.gov/hwp/healthy-watersheds-consortium-grants-hwcg>
<https://www.sebagocleanwaters.org/>

ANY QUESTIONS?

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